



# The <sup>WH</sup> Village Voice

May 2015, Issue 9

## From the Office of the Mayor...



The Village of Waite Hill  
7215 Eagle Road  
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[www.waitehilloh.gov](http://www.waitehilloh.gov)

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Fellow Residents:

Hello and let's all thank our lucky stars that spring appears to be here once and for all. The cold of winter is in the rear view mirror but the effects of the prolonged severe cold have left lasting marks. From unprecedented damage to our roads, a phenomenon suffered by all municipalities in northeast Ohio, to three water main breaks in the Village in three consecutive days, winter sure came in with a roar and left with a roar. As always, our police and service workers were kept *very* busy doing their best to make sure Village services continued as normal as possible under the circumstances.

There have been many other happenings, some of the more prominent of which are outlined below.

### Cell Tower

Perhaps the most visible of the many issues that Council and the Administration have spent time on over the last several months is Verizon's approach to the Village for consideration of the installation of a cell tower or other facility to improve reception for residents. This issue has prompted a good deal of dialogue both internally and among residents. There appears to be as many different opinions as there are people expressing them as we deal with the issue of melding the historical fabric of the Village with the advancements of modern technology. So a summary of where things currently stand is in order so that all are brought up to date with the current state of facts.

Verizon approached council and the administration several months ago about erecting a cell facility to the rear of the salt bin currently existing behind Village Hall. Historically Waite Hill has not been attractive for such any type of cell facility because of the lack of density in the Village. As a result, we began investigating the pros and cons of Verizon's inquiry. Some of these factors include regular complaints from residents about poor cell service, increased reliance by our police department on the quick and dependable retrieval of mobile digital data while patrolling the Village, some additional revenue for our general fund, and staying abreast of the times as communications technology rapidly moves from traditional landline and hardwired systems to wireless systems and devices. Against these advancements, we try to balance the preservation of our pastoral nature.

So that there is no confusion, **no commitments have been made**, in writing or otherwise, as of this writing. We have engaged in dialogue with Verizon, talked about the parameters of a lease arrangement and the related economics, identified the location of a tower or other facility **if we deem it in the Village's best interests and decide to proceed**, and determined that no tower or facility will be considered if it requires lighting during the night. Beyond those considerations, we are continuing to study the issue.

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The WH Village Voice is published quarterly for the residents of Waite Hill Village by Village Council. It is also available online at [www.waitehilloh.gov](http://www.waitehilloh.gov). Please submit any updates on births, deaths, weddings and other news to share with fellow residents to [villagevoice@waitehilloh.gov](mailto:villagevoice@waitehilloh.gov) or by mail at 7215 Eagle Road, Attn: Village Voice.

## Updates from the Service Department

We have survived another cold, harsh winter and spring is finally here. We, at the Service Department are looking forward to warmer days as many of you are. The colder than normal winter has left many of the roads in need of repair. As soon as the weather permits, we will be addressing repairs on a priority basis. Please use caution and slow down when you see the road work signs.

We would like to remind the residents that certain items cannot be accepted on extra pickup days and garbage days. These items include: tires, fluorescent bulbs, yard waste (leaves, grass, etc.), paints and stains. The 2015 Lake County solid waste special collections dates and times are posted in this newsletter. From all of us at the Service Department, have a great summer and we hope to see you around. Never hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns at (440) 942-2074.

Mike McClain  
Public Service Director

**Welcome to Waite Hill!**

Our apologies for misprinting the name of one of our newest neighbors in the last issue of the Village Voice.

Welcome to Nora Nemeč and Bud Stanley on Smith Road.

## The Waite Hill Police Beat

Hello to all residents~



Now that spring is here, we have to remember to take care with pedestrian traffic. Our Village has had an increase of bicyclists and joggers over the years. There have been a few incidents with bicycle crashes and near misses of pedestrians versus vehicles. We are trying to be diligent with the speeding vehicles on our roadways, but please contact us with any areas of concern that you may have.

**Congratulations!**

Al Clough, long-time architectural advisor for the Village just celebrated his 90th birthday and 65th wedding anniversary with his wife, Lil.



We have hired a new part-time officer, Joshua East, who started on March 16. Josh also works part-time with Kirtland Hills Police Department and he is a great fit for our department. He will be working with Officer Brian Beaumier over the next few months and meeting with our residents.

This past year we have seen an increase in residents receiving scam letters in the mail, via email, and by telephone. If you are the recipient of anything suspicious, please do not hesitate to contact the police department for help verifying the legitimacy of any communications.

With the recent power outages and water main breaks we have had throughout the Village, we are looking into a system that each of you could be contacted via an electronic device with pertinent information. This system could be utilized with many different situations. Unfortunately, the utility companies are reluctant to give us too much information when it comes down to when power will be restored after an outage. An officer would be able to use an APP on the cruiser phone or computer system and send a text or an e-mail to each of you providing up-to-date information as we get it. Furthermore, this system also could be used for any other type of communication, emergencies, or road closures. We have been researching this and I will continue to update you as we find the appropriate system for Waite Hill.

Please remember, if you notice anything that does not look right or looks suspicious, please contact us. The best way to reach an officer is through the dispatcher at 440-942-1660. If it is an emergency, please call 9-1-1. The Waite Hill Village Police Department, as always, looks forward to serving the community. Your safety and security is always our concern!

**In Memorium...**

Our deepest sympathies go out to anyone who has lost a loved one in recent months. We'd like to especially recognize members of our Waite Hill community that have passed away.



Ed Linderme      March 12

Respectfully submitted,

Keith A. DeWitt  
Chief of Police



# Village Update from the Mayor continued

Before making any binding decisions, we intend to conduct a public forum so that all who wish will have an opportunity to express their views. We also invite you to email any thoughts, comments or other observations you may have on the issue to us through our website, [www.waitehilloh.gov](http://www.waitehilloh.gov).

## Memorial Day Service

Once again the Village will conduct a Memorial Day service to recognize and honor our veterans. This year's program will be held on **May 25, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Village Cemetery**. This is our annual opportunity to recognize the many veterans - including many Villagers - who have paid the ultimate price for our freedom. The program will run for approximately a half hour. We hope to see you there.

Sgt. Mike Walsh is assisting with the planning of this service. If you have served in the armed forces, please contact Officer Walsh by email at [mwalsh@waitehilloh.gov](mailto:mwalsh@waitehilloh.gov) or by phone at (440) 942-5015.

## Finances

We ran at an overall cash flow deficit of \$ 263,829 in calendar 2014. This was in line with our forecast and matched our projections when discussing the Safety and Service Levy that was passed at the end of 2013. As we continue to search for solutions, it is important for all to recognize that the Village faces real long-term fiscal challenges because we cannot continue to operate with deficit spending into the indefinite future.

A more detailed reporting of our finances will be the subject of my next newsletter, along with the status of our Village Hall bonds and a not-for-profit entity that has been formed to try to fill the funding void left by the repeal of the Ohio estate tax.

## Road Program

To make a long story short and as briefly mentioned above, our roads took a real beating this past winter due to the severe and prolonged cold. As we try to stretch limited dollars to prolong the lives of the roads and defer the outlay of large capital sums for replacement, you will notice much more in the way of repair and remedial work that has been historically undertaken. Sections of roads will be repaired where possible and crack sealing will be extensively implemented to mitigate the damage caused by winter.

## New Building Projects

Every year we like to remind our residents that anybody undertaking a building, remodeling or grading project should first check with Village Hall to make sure the necessary approvals are secured **prior to proceeding with any work**. Though some may think otherwise, our intent is not to create unnecessary red tape, delay or other problems. We simply want to ensure that all projects are undertaken in conformity with our existing zoning regulations which are intended to preserve the beauty and fabric of our Village, assets which all residents value.

## Village Website

Remember to stay on top of all Village happenings by visiting our website, [www.waitehilloh.gov](http://www.waitehilloh.gov).

Please do not hesitate to call Village Hall or e-mail us with any questions, comments or concerns that you have. As always, we will do our best to address them. Again, thank you for your time and interest.

Very truly yours,  
*Bob Ranallo*  
Robert A. Ranallo

## Shredding Program

June 20, 2015  
9:00am - Noon

Please bring items to be shredded to the front parking lot of Village Hall.

## Welcome to the Village!



Officer Josh East was sworn in as our newest part-time police officer in March. Officer East grew up in Geauga County where he graduated from Berkshire High School in 2008. He is a 2012 graduate of Lakeland Community College and Police Academy. He started his law enforcement career with Burton Police Department and is currently working part-time with the Kirtland Hills Police Department. Please welcome him to the Village when you see him.

## Lake County Solid Waste Management Special Collection Events

### Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Lake County Fairgrounds,  
South End

June 6, 9am - 3pm  
September 26, 9am - 3pm

### Merritt Babysitting Services

Hello Waite Hill community! Look no further for quality babysitters. Our names are Amanda and Connor Merritt and we are offering babysitting services to the Village of Waite Hill. We are high school students from Hathaway Brown School and University School. We live nearby on Eagle Road and can transport ourselves to and from any location.

We are able to babysit on any weekend up until May 29<sup>th</sup>.

After May 29<sup>th</sup>, we are available at any time. Rates are negotiable. To contact us, please call us at (440) 527-8336, or email at [merrittbabysittingservices@gmail.com](mailto:merrittbabysittingservices@gmail.com).

-  Council Meeting 8am
-  Planning & Zoning Meeting 8am
-  Trash Only
-  Trash and Recycle
-  Extra Pick-ups
-  Memorial Day
-  Hazardous Waste Collection-Fairgrounds
-  Shredding Day
-  July 4th

## MAY

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31						

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## AUGUST

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